How Do You Get Paid for Medical Studies?

Perhaps you were not even aware that it's possible but with new drugs being developed all of the time, clinical research trials occur on a regular basis.

Some clinical trials (as they're also known) occur on people who have the condition or symptoms that the drugs are meant to treat (in order to find out whether the new drug is effective or not). An example of this might be a new drug being given to terminal cancer patients.

But, plenty of drug trials happen using healthy volunteers, even though the name volunteer might be somewhat misleading in these cases as these volunteers are paid for their time and may make decent sums of money for taking part in these trials.

I will just add, before I go into more detail I appreciate that Home Based Business' is likely not the very accurate description for this but I could not find a more suitable category.

Anyway, let's talk some more about how you volunteer to get these paid clinical trials and what's involved in doing them.



New medications have to go through several stages of tests and approval in order to learn if they're safe to be used on humans and if they're good at treating the conditions or illnesses they are supposed to help with.

Whether you agree with it or not (from an ethical point of view), the earlier phases of the testing process involve animal testing. Before any new medications are given to people the scientists that are developing them will have a fantastic idea of what side effects there may be of carrying them and whether they are safe for human ingestion.

Obviously there has been at least one notable incident here in the UK which I am aware of where things went horribly wrong, in April 2006. I was actually at a medical screening (a bit like a job interview for a medical trial) the day the news broke about the issues with this ParexI trial in London. I had not seen the news that the very first thing that the doctors asked me as it was my turn for my interview was whether I had been aware of what happened and did I want to continue to apply for the trial.

I asked if they were analyzing the identical type of drug, they told me that they were not (the medication trial I had been applying for at the time was to get a diabetes medication) so I explained I had been quite pleased to go ahead. It wasn't my initial trial with that clinical research unit, I had done several together over the previous few years so I believed I was in safe hands.

The medical trials that I have completed over they years have ranged from analyzing new medications, to analyzing different doses of current drugs or different delivery methods (slow release tablets for example, or injections.

I've completed a few where I had no apparent effects from taking the medication (I could have obtained a placebo) to other people where I felt absolutely horrible - one of the first ones I did was to get a multiple sclerosis drug that was administered by sub-cutaneous (below the skin) injection into the gut. The injection itself was painful and the principal side effect of this drug was terrible flu like symptoms which lasted several hours. I have taken strong opiate based pain killers - I invested a lot of time asleep during this trial!

Generally when you perform a paid medical trial you will have some overnight stays on the unit. These can vary from a couple of nights per week, to several weeks on end inside the limits of the unit. I forget what was tested on the event where I had a two week stay but I do recall a couple of those other volunteers going a bit stir crazy and being extremely disruptive.

The two clinical study units where I have supplied both supplied things like net access, cable/satellite TV, DVDs to watch, books to read, board games to playwith. They tend not to be so keen on things like video games since these can cause an elevated heartbeat when you are playing them.

The food ranges from fairly bad (imagine the worst airline food that you could think about) to really good (one unit at which I have volunteered has their very own in house chefs!) Although some medical trials involve periods of fasting where you do not get to eat for a while (frequently whilst others are being fed around you) which can feel like torture sometimes but you easily get over it.

The amount you get paid varies from trial to trial and as far as I could tell from 1 research unit into another as well. You can be paid anything from a few #100 to a few thousand #s. The sum is based on a formula related to the number of overnight stays you need to perform as well the number of visits which you make to the device, not the way'risky' it might be.

You also get paid travel expenses to get to and out of the medical research components.

They ought to always sit down you before hand (as well as sending you the data in advance) and go through exactly what is being tested, why, what the expected side effects are and make certain you understand all of them.

You need to always have the ability to withdraw at any time from a trial for any reason, even though if it's for non-medical motives you may not get paid the entire amount.

You shouldn't try to get paid for medical research if you are fearful of needles, or having blood taken (there are always plenty of blood tests) don't like hospital type environments or being confined to a few rooms together with people you haven't really met before.

In case you have any kind of pre-existing medical illness then you may not be approved as they are generally searching for healthy volunteers to deliver a baseline, although I had childhood asthma and this has not prevented me from taking part in paid medical studies. Read more info click philippines medical colleges